

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 17, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 5, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 154

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Jeffries**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Garrick and Miller)**  
**(Coauthor: Senator Dutton)**

April 12, 2010

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 154—Relative to ~~Yeager Brothers Overpass~~; *the Yeager Family Interchange*.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 154, as amended, Jeffries. ~~Yeager Brothers Overpass~~; *Family Interchange*.

This measure would designate the ~~overpass interchange~~ at State Highway Route 60 and State Highway Route 15, in *the County of Riverside, California*, as the ~~Yeager Brothers Overpass Family Interchange~~. This measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering those costs, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1     *WHEREAS, The Yeager family has been committed to great*
- 2     *civic service and charitable contributions in their community, and*
- 3     *has been involved in major construction projects that have*
- 4     *improved transportation throughout Southern California; and*

1     WHEREAS, In 1918 Ernest Louis Yeager (1893-1979) moved  
2     to Riverside, California from his home in Tomah, Wisconsin and  
3     founded the E.L. Yeager Construction Company, Inc., in 1919;  
4     and

5     WHEREAS, One year later Ernest married Emma Leah Stalder  
6     and raised their three sons, Jacques Stalder Yeager, E. Eugene  
7     “Gene” Yeager, and Richard Allen Yeager; and

8     WHEREAS, The Yeager brothers grew up in Riverside and  
9     attended Poly High School; and

10    WHEREAS, The company began by building parking lots and  
11    city streets in San Bernardino and, during the following decades,  
12    the company became one of the state’s largest civil engineering  
13    firms and constructed a stretch of Historic Route 66, the road  
14    system around the Hoover Dam, major portions of Interstate 15,  
15    and multiple interchanges on State Highway Route 91; and

16    WHEREAS, After the two eldest brothers served in World War  
17    II, they returned home to Riverside and joined their father working  
18    in the company, and after completing his service with the United  
19    States Marine Corps, Richard united with his brothers as a part  
20    of the company; and

21    WHEREAS, In 1952, after suffering from a series of strokes,  
22    Ernest Yeager handed over the company to his sons, and the Yeager  
23    brothers expanded the company to one of the top contractors in  
24    the state; and

25    WHEREAS, Ernest passed away in 1979 and, later that year,  
26    after working for the company and being involved in a variety of  
27    civic roles including the Republican Central Committee, Richard  
28    and his wife were killed in a car accident; and

29    WHEREAS, Following the 1994 Northridge earthquake, the  
30    company was given the contract to replace the twin 765 foot  
31    bridges of Interstate 5 near Santa Clarita with only 130 days to  
32    complete the project that would normally take more than a year,  
33    and yet the company finished the project in only 100 days; and

34    WHEREAS, In 1999, Emma Yeager passed away and is survived  
35    by her two sons Jacques and Gene; and

36    WHEREAS, When the Yeager Company was sold in 2002, it had  
37    grossed over \$285 million the prior year, making it among the  
38    state’s top 10 contractors; and

39    WHEREAS, Beyond construction and development, the Yeager  
40    family has been dedicated to the Inland Empire community; and

1     WHEREAS, *The Yeager family has developed strong*  
2     *relationships with the University of California, Riverside, through*  
3     *gifts, service, and partnerships from the university's founding, and*  
4     *in 1957 the Yeager Company donated the concrete that became*  
5     *the "C" that now marks the University of California, Riverside,*  
6     *above the skyline on Box Spring Mountain; and*

7     WHEREAS, *The Yeager family has served the community*  
8     *through many charitable and civic organizations including United*  
9     *Way of the Inland Valleys, the Board of Trustees of the University*  
10    *of California, Riverside, the Regional Institute of Southern*  
11    *California, the General George Patton Museum, the Greater*  
12    *Riverside Chambers of Commerce Monday Morning Group, the*  
13    *Inland Empire Cultural Foundation, the California Water Resource*  
14    *Administration, the Inland Empire Economic Partnership, the*  
15    *March Air Field Museum Foundation, the Raincross Club of*  
16    *Riverside, the Riverside Art Foundation, the Riverside County*  
17    *Philharmonic Association, the Olive Crest Foundation, the*  
18    *Riverside Art Museum Julia Morgan Society, the Mission Inn*  
19    *Foundation, and the California Baptist University; and*

20    WHEREAS, *In recognition of the Yeager family's great civic*  
21    *and charitable contributions and service, as well as their major*  
22    *construction projects improving the transportation and educational*  
23    *infrastructure in southern California, it would be a fitting tribute*  
24    *to designate the interchange at State Highway Route 60 and State*  
25    *Highway Route 15, in the County of Riverside, as the Yeager*  
26    *Family Interchange; now, therefore, be it*

27    RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF  
28    CALIFORNIA, THE SENATE THEREOF CONCURRING, *That*  
29    *the Legislature hereby designates the interchange at State Highway*  
30    *Route 60 and State Highway Route 15, in the County of Riverside,*  
31    *as the Yeager Family Interchange; and be it further*

32    RESOLVED, *That the Department of Transportation is*  
33    *requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent*  
34    *with the signing requirements for the state highway system showing*  
35    *this special designation and, upon receiving donations from*  
36    *nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs;*  
37    *and be it further*

38    RESOLVED, *That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit*  
39    *copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and*  
40    *to the author for appropriate distribution.*

1 WHEREAS, Jacques Stalder Yeager, Sr., was born in 1921, the  
2 eldest of three children, including E. Eugene “Gene” Yeager who  
3 was born in 1924, each in Riverside, California; and

4 WHEREAS, Their father, Ernest Louis Yeager (1893–1979)  
5 founded E.L. Yeager Construction Company, Inc., in 1919; and

6 WHEREAS, Jacques graduated from Poly High School in  
7 Riverside in 1939, and began his studies at the University of  
8 California, Berkeley; and

9 WHEREAS, His education was interrupted by his service as a  
10 lieutenant in the SeaBees, the Construction Battalions (CBs) of  
11 the United States Navy, for which he trained at the University of  
12 Notre Dame; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1945, Jacques returned to the University of  
14 California, Berkeley, where, in 1947, he earned a Bachelor of  
15 Science Degree in Engineering, and he continues to serve on the  
16 Steering Committee for the School of Engineering and the Alumni  
17 Association of that university; and

18 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Jacques has taken action to  
19 further economic development in the Inland Empire, higher  
20 education, the arts, culture, and shoring up the infrastructure of  
21 southern California’s fastest growing region; and

22 WHEREAS, Jacques returned to Riverside to work for E.L.  
23 Yeager Construction Company in 1947, became president in 1956,  
24 led that company to become one of the state’s largest contractors,  
25 completing nearly \$130 million in highway construction projects  
26 for Caltrans from 1984 through 1986, and became chairman and  
27 chief executive officer of the company in 1993; and

28 WHEREAS, Jacques served on the Riverside County Local  
29 Streets and Highways Needs Assessment Steering Committee and  
30 the Riverside County Transportation Commission from 1984 to  
31 1990, was appointed by Governor Deukmejian as a regent of the  
32 University of California from 1988 to 1994, and was appointed  
33 by Governor Wilson as a member of the California Economic  
34 Strategy Panel from 1994 to 1998; and

35 WHEREAS, After selling the company in 1995, Jacques  
36 remained active in serving various charitable and academic  
37 institutions, including the United Way of the Inland Valleys, the  
38 Board of Trustees of the University of California, Riverside, the  
39 Regional Institute of Southern California, the General George  
40 Patton Museum, the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce

Monday Morning Group, the Inland Empire Cultural Foundation, the California Water Resource Administration, the Inland Empire Economic Partnership, the March Air Field Museum Foundation, the Raincross Club of Riverside, and the Riverside Art Foundation; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Poly High School in 1942, Gene began studying engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, enlisted in the Navy in 1943, receiving a fleet appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, and returned to the University of California, Berkeley, in 1946, where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering in 1948; and

WHEREAS, Gene then joined the family company, and their father turned the business over to Jacques and Gene in 1952 shortly after which, they began their longstanding relationship with the University of California, Riverside, by grading the site and laying down its first curbs and sidewalks, into which the pioneer student class engraved their names; and

WHEREAS, Gene has served many charitable and civic organizations, including the Riverside County Philharmonic Association, the Olive Crest Foundation, the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, the United Way of the Inland Valleys, the Riverside Art Museum Julia Morgan Society, the Mission Inn Foundation, and the California Baptist University; has created scholarships at the University of California, Riverside; has received the Robert Holstein Public Service and Humanitarian Award from the Children's Spine Foundation; and was recognized by the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce as Citizen of the Year 2009; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the Yeager brothers great civic and charitable contributions and service, as well as their major construction projects improving the transportation and educational infrastructure in southern California, it would be a fitting tribute to designate the overpass at State Highway Route 60 and State Highway Route 15, in the City of Riverside, as the Yeager Brothers Overpass; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby designates the overpass at State Highway Route 60 and State Highway Route 15,

1 in the City of Riverside, as the Yeager Brothers Overpass; and be  
2 it further

3 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested  
4 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the  
5 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this  
6 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate  
7 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it  
8 further

9 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
10 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the  
11 author for appropriate distribution.

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